

Message Text

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT CORRECTED)

PASS AGRICULTURE/FAS

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EAGR PL
SUBJ: PIOTR JAROSZEWICZ SPEAKS ON AGRICULTURE

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FOLLOWING ARE POINTS RELATING TO AGRICULTURE BY PIOTR JAROSZEWICZ, PRESIDENT, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, IN SPEECH IN THE SEJM (POLISH PARLIAMENT) JULY 20.

- 1977 WAS A PARTICULARLY BAD YEAR.
- POTATOES--BECAUSE OF LOW YIELDS AND STORAGE LOSSES AVAILABILITY WAS 8 MLN TONS BELOW 1976.
- VALUE OF TOTAL 1977 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION: ZL 20 BLN SHORT OF PLAN, AND 50 MLN SHORT INCLUDING PRODUCTION DECREASES IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY.
- LIVESTOCK POPULATION AS OF 1/1/77: SWINE 2.5 MLN HEAD BELOW (1976); CATTLE 400,000 HEAD BELOW.
- 1977 MEAT AND ANIMAL FATS IMPORT: 140,000 M/T, WORTH \$150 MLN.
- 177/78 GRAIN AND FEED IMPORTS TOTALED 9 MLN TON WORTH

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\$1 BLN WHICH IS MORE THAN THE VALUE OF ANNUAL COAL EXPORTS TO HARD CURRENCY MARKETS.

- EXPORTS OF TRADITIONALLY EXPORTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES HAD TO BE CURBED OR DISCONTINUED; IN 1977 THE AGRICULTURAL-FOOD SECTOR'S FOREIGN TRADE BALANCE WAS \$700 MLN IN THE RED.
- IT IS EXPECTED THAT RECENT INCREASE OF PRDUCER PRICES FOR LIVESTOCK WILL BRING AN ADDITIONAL INCOME OF ZL 6 BLN

TO FARMERS. THE FIGURE FOR 1979 IS AROUND ZL 13 BLN.

- TO BOOST CROP PRODUCTION, FERTILIZER SUPPLIES WILL IMPROVE. RECENTLY, FOLLOWING SOME DISTURBANCES IN THE INDUSTRY, CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES HAVE ARISEN, THEY ARE BEING REMEDIED NOW. DURING JAN-JUNE OF 1978 FERTILIZER SUPPLIES WERE 6.6 PERCENT ABOVE JAN-JUNE 1977 INCLUDING NITRO FERTILIZER UP 13 PERCENT.

- SUBSTANTIAL LAND AREAS ARE STILL NOT UNDER PROPER CULTIVATION. THE GOVERNMENT IS PREPARING SOME PROCEEDINGS WHICH WILL FAVOR BETTER LAND ECONOMY, THE CONCENTRATION OF LAND IN THE HANDS OF GOOD PRIVATE FARMERS, AND THE EXPANSION OF SOCIALIZED FARMS. THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO TRY TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE FARMERS TO TAKE LAND (FROM THE STATE LAND FUND) AND DEVELOPING IT. (COMMENT: STATE FARMS HAVE USUALLY BEEN MENTIONED FIRST.)

- ONE OF THE IMPORTANT TARGETS IS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PRIVATE FARMS SPECIALIZING IN CERTAIN PRODUCTION LINES. 35 PERCENT OF ALL PRIVATE FARMS PRODUCE NO SWINE, 28 PERCENT NO CATTLE, 20 PERCENT NEITHER SWINE NOR CATTLE.

- THIS YEAR DOESN'T LOOK EASY EITHER.

- TARIFFS LEVIED ON BOTH AGRICULTURAL AND NON-AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS LAST YEAR TOTALLED OVER \$210 MLN IN HARD CURRENCY MARKETS.

- WORLD MARKET PRICE RELATIONSHIPS WERE IN POLAND'S DISFAVOR, RESULTING IN LOSSES ESTIMATED AT 330 MLN OVER THE PERIOD 1976/78.

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- NEVERTHELESS POLAND GUARANTEES STRICT AND HONEST REPAYMENT OF CONTRACTED DEBTS.

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